

Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

New Information in Blue Text

Event Name	22-0004 Winter Weather 01FEB					
Date	February 3, 2022					
Time	9:00 AM					
Operational Period	February 2, 2022 – February 3, 2022					
Report Number	1					

Regions Affected	
DPS Regions Affected	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
DDCs Active	1, 2, 3, 4A, 4B, 6, 7, 11 & 22

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION: Governor Greg Abbott provided an update on Texas' response to winter weather that is expected to impact the state in the next few days. Severe cold weather, snow, and ice are expected throughout Texas starting tomorrow and lasting through the end of the week. The Governor urged Texans to be cautious and avoid travel, if possible, as roadways are expected to be dangerous.

The Governor was joined for a briefing and a press conference by representatives of the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM), Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT), Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC), Railroad Commission of Texas, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas Military Department, Texas A&M Forest Service, Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Texas Department of Transportation, Texas Department of State Health Services, and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

"The State of Texas is working around the clock to respond robustly to the substantial winter storm that is expected to impact our state over the coming days," said Governor Abbott. "Every state agency is in close communication and coordination to provide resources and valuable information to keep Texans safe during these winter weather conditions. Texans are urged to avoid driving on roads and closely monitor weather conditions and guidance from local and state officials over the coming days as we work together to keep our loved ones safe."

The Governor addressed power generation capacity ahead of the incoming winter weather and discussed the additional generation the state has brought online to strengthen the resiliency of the electric grid. ERCOT forecasts that the electric grid will be reliable and there will be enough power supply to meet demand.

The PUC has completed a multi-month inspection process of power generators and over 99 percent have winterized their facilities. The generation and transmission system meet and exceed federal winterization standards. The state has also identified critical natural gas infrastructure to ensure these facilities maintain power and operations during the winter weather. The PUC will continue to monitor grid conditions across the state. Additionally, ERCOT will monitor weather conditions and will update electricity demand forecasts as the weather event progresses.

The Governor urged Texans to stay off the roads if possible and noted that the Texas Department of Transportation began pre-treating roads this past Sunday and will continue to treat roads in the coming days. He also warned Texans against the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning and stressed that Texans should not bring generators inside their homes.

The Railroad Commission of Texas has conducted operational calls with local gas distribution companies, major gas producers, and pipeline operators throughout the state. They have also inspected 100 percent of intrastate underground natural gas storage facilities.

TDEM has a winter weather webpage on <u>tdem.texas.gov</u>. TDEM is also hosting daily statewide weather briefings for jurisdictional priorities and life safety updates and hosting daily energy industry coordination calls to address industry resources requests. TDEM Mass Care is stationing water and meals ready to eat at Resource Staging Areas across the state. Lufkin and San Antonio warehouses are stocked with blankets, cots, water, ice chests, air beds, medical cots, and additional supplies. A Regional Emergency Declaration issued by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration coordinated by TDEM during the January cold weather threat remains in effect until February 6, which allows for extension of hours of service for propane and natural gas transportation. The State Operations Center is activating Wednesday morning at Level 2 (Escalated Response) in support of winter weather. The State Operations Center will be staffed continuously and will provide updates on utility and electric outages across the state during the storm.

The following additional resources have been rostered and deployed in support of the state's winter weather response:

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality: Emergency Management Support Teams (EMST), Disaster Response Strike Teams (DRSTs) and emergency response hazmat contractors are on standby for possible deployment to assist local governments with any air/water/waste related issues including drinking water/wastewater issues and/or emergency response activities. Notified Public Drinking Water and Wastewater Systems to provide reminders to operators on

regulatory guidance, procedures, and preparedness steps to take in advance of approaching winter weather. Worked with ERCOT to review TCEQ's Power Emergency Procedures. Workgroup created to screen emissions reports for cold weather-related causes for consistent processing. Contacted EPA Region 6 to begin coordination of any possible response activities and resource requests.

Texas Department of Transportation: All 25 TxDOT Districts are engaged in winter weather preparations and have crews ready for 24 hour operations. Pre-treatment of roads began over the weekend.

Texas Military Department: 130 personnel and 50 vehicles are rostered, as well as one command and control package. 5 Winter Weather Mission Ready Packages staged in cities across the state. Rostered one command and control package. Texas Forest Service: Rostered response packages including more than 29 vehicles and more than 50 personnel across Texas.

Texas Department of State Health Services: Coordinating with Hospital Preparedness Providers on resource needs as well as requirements for hospital reporting of facility issues (power outages, water issues, medical surge staff, or overnight lodging requirements). Coordinating with Texas Emergency Medical Task Force on winter needs and coordinating with Texas Department of Health and Human Services on plans should needs arise for emergency evacuation of State Supported Living Centers or other facilities.

Texans are encouraged to monitor road conditions at drivetexas.org. Texans can also access power line safety reports and contact their transmission company at puc.texas.gov.

A Declaration of Emergency Notice was signed by DPS Director Steven C. McCraw effective from February 3, 2022 through 11:59PM on February 7, 2022. Declaration of this emergency provides relief from Title 49, CFR, Part 395.3 of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations for motor carriers in Texas providing direct assistance to the disaster relief in the State of Texas. This includes, but is not limited to, power grid repairs and delivery of groceries, fuel, propane, and other essential products.

OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES:

- 1. Protect life and property.
- 2. Support rapid & effective response.
- 3. Collect and disseminate accurate incident information to improve decisionmaking.
- 4. Accurately track incident costs associated with assigned resources for cost recovery.

Region 1 (Includes DDCs 4, 5, 6, and 22)

DDC 4A – Hurst (Includes: Denton, Erath, Hood, Johnson, Palo Pinto, Parker, Somervell, Tarrant and Wise Counties)

DDC 4A is activated at Level II.

Denton County - The City of Denton issued a disaster declaration for the pending severe winter weather on Tuesday, February 1.

DDC 4B – Garland (Includes: Collin, Dallas, Ellis, Hunt, Kaufman, Navarro and Rockwall Counties)

DDC 4B is activated at Level II.

Dallas County – Dallas County issued a disaster declaration for the pending severe winter weather on Tuesday, February 1.

Kaufman County - Kaufman County issued a disaster declaration for the pending severe winter weather on Tuesday, February 1.

DDC 6 – Tyler (Includes: Anderson, Camp, Cherokee, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Marion, Panola, Rains, Rusk, Smith, Upshur, Van Zandt and Wood Counties)

DDC 6 is activated at Level II (virtual).

DDC 22 – Sherman (Includes: Cooke, Fannin and Grayson Counties)

DDC 22 is activated at Level II.

Grayson County - The City of Van Alstyne opened a warming center at their Community Center located at 262 N Preston Ave.

Region 2 (Includes DDCs 13, 14, 15, 16 Houston, 16 Texas City, 16 Conroe, and DDC Pierce)

DDC 14 – Lufkin (Includes: Angelina, Houston, Jasper, Nacogdoches, Newton, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity and Tyler Counties)

TxDOT has pre-treated all Tier 1 roadways in District 14 and DC Clingaman has been in contact with TxDOT regarding daily operations - no unmet needs. No jurisdictions are reporting any anticipated closures of public offices or buildings. No reports of warming stations or shelters opening. There have been no reports received at this time regarding ISD closures and there are no reports of pending or EOC activations.

District 14 is on the SE border of the forecasted ice accumulation from the winter weather event - the latest forecast indicates less 0.10 accumulation is possible. Communications with local jurisdictions will continue to ensure impacts are known.

DDC 16 – Houston (Includes: Chambers and Harris Counties)

Harris County - The Harris County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management is monitoring a strong cold front moving through the area beginning tonight into Thursday morning. The <u>National Weather Service</u> is also forecasting widespread freezing temperatures on Friday and Saturday mornings.

Thursday and Friday mornings, temperatures in Harris County will be in the 30s with wind chill values into the teens. The primary risk will come from exposure to temperatures at or near freezing, especially in the areas ranging from far north and west Harris County. Residents should take measures to protect the 4 P's - people, pets, pipes and plants. Dress in warm, layered clothing if you plan to be outside.

Light freezing rain is likely in Harris County after 4 pm on Thursday. Light ice accumulation on bridges and overpasses is possible Friday morning. Temperatures should be above freezing by mid-morning and any ice should melt. Residents should monitor road conditions at <u>Houston TranStar Map</u>. Residents planning to travel outside of Harris County can check statewide road conditions at <u>www.drivetexas.org</u>.

Region 3 (Includes DDCs 19, 20, 21, and 24)

DDC 20 – Corpus Christi (Includes: Aransas, Bee, Brooks, Duval, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kleberg, Live Oak, Nueces, Refugio and San Patricio Counties)

Nueces County: Warming Centers: Open the following dates and times Thursday, February 3, from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Friday, February 4 and Saturday, February 5, from 8 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sunday, February 6, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

- Broadmoor Senior Center 1651 Tarlton Street 826-3138
- Ethel Eyerly Senior Center 654 Graham Road 826-2330
- Owen R. Hopkins Library 3202 McKinzie Road 826-2350
- La Retama Library 805 Comanche Street 826-7055
- Ben F. McDonald Library 4044 Greenwood Drive 826-2356

The Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority will provide free transportation to and from the Warming Centers. Food will not be offered, and pets will not be allowed inside.

The City of Corpus Christi activated their Emergency Operations Center to Level III (virtual).

Region 4 (Includes DDCs 8, 9, and 10)

DDC 8 – El Paso (Includes: Brewster, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis and Presidio Counties)

Hudspeth County - Hudspeth County is opening a warming center at 528 N. Williams Avenue in Sierra Blanca at the County Barn where the Extension Agent Office is located.

DDC 9A – Midland (Includes: Andrews, Borden, Dawson, Ector, Gaines, Glasscock, Howard, Martin, Midland and Winkler Counties)

Ector County - Salvation Army 24/7 during event, 10^{TH} & Jefferson, Capacity - 50. Connection Christian Church 4241 Tanglewood Lane. Odessa Fire Rescue, on standby, will open if Salvation Army reaches capacity.

Midland County - Salvation Army 24/7 600 East Wall, Midland, Texas, Capacity: 85, Total Last Night:54. Breaking Bread Kitchen, 410 East Florida, Justin Bunch, on standby- will open only if Salvation Army shelter reaches capacity.

Region 5 (Includes DDCs 1, 2, 3, and 7)

DDC 1 – Amarillo (Includes: Armstrong, Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Childress, Collingsworth, Dallam, Deaf Smith, Donley, Gray, Hall, Hansford, Hartley, Hemphill, Hutchinson, Lipscomb, Moore, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Sherman, Swisher and Wheeler Counties)

DDC 1 is activated at Level III.

DDC 2 – Lubbock (Includes: Bailey, Cochran, Crosby, Dickens, Floyd, Garza, Hale, Hockley, King, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Motley, Terry and Yoakum Counties)

DDC 2 is activated at Level III.

Lubbock County: The City of Lubbock EOC is activated at Level III. Currently, the Salvation Army, Grace Campus and Open-Door Lubbock are open as warming centers.

DDC 3 – Wichita Falls (Includes: Archer, Baylor, Clay, Cottle, Foard, Hardeman, Jack, Wichita, Wilbarger and Young Counties)

DDC 3 is activated at Level III. Most of the schools have chosen to close by midday Wednesday to safely return kids home. A few closed for the whole day. Counties have remained open at this time and a couple universities are modifying their class schedules by midday.

DDC 7 – Abilene (Includes: Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, Throckmorton and Taylor Counties)

DDC 7 is activated at Level III.

Brown County - The latest report shows temperatures ranging from 31 degrees in Jayton to 45 degrees in Brownwood, with no precipitation. The high temperature for the day has been reached. Temperatures will continue decline throughout the remainder of the day Wednesday, with precipitation chances increasing. Winds are from the north and range from 12mph in Throckmorton to 23 mph in Haskell; the highest wind gust has been 27 mph in Haskell and Snyder.

A TMD Winter Weather Package is expected to arrive in District 7 Wednesday evening; the team currently plans to split, with roughly half staging in Brownwood (Camp Bowie) and half staging in Abilene (Dyess AFB). TMD is patrolling IH-20 for stranded motorists.

Region 6 (Includes DDCs 11, 12, 17, 18A, 18B, and 23)

DDC 11 – Waco (Includes: Bosque, Falls, Freestone, Hill, Limestone and McLennan Counties)

DDC 11 is activated at Level III (Virtual). The DPS Waco Office will be closed Thursday, February 3.

DDC 23 – Killeen (Includes: Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas, Milam, Mills and San Saba Counties)

Bell County - Two warming centers are open in Temple. Salvation Army located at 419 W. Avenue G is open from 6PM to 7AM. Impact Church located at 306 E. Adams Avenue is open from 6PM to 8AM. These centers will operate nightly while Temple is experiencing below-freezing temperatures.

RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS

Texas Division of Emergency Management, Texas A&M University System (TDEM): The State of Texas SOC increased its readiness level to Level II (Escalated Response) at 7:00 a.m., Wednesday, 2 February for winter weather response operations. TDEM regional Assistant Chiefs and District Coordinators continue to coordinate with local officials and emergency management partners, as well as the Disaster Districts to determine unmet needs and state resource needs. Daily Operations staff continue to process disaster declarations, letters to the Governor, Disaster Summary Outlines, State of Texas Assistance Requests (STARs), preparing Snapshots and the State SITREPs. The State Management Team (SMT) continues conducting operations in the Remote SOC, working together with activated members of the State's Emergency Management Council.

In addition, TDEM continues to coordinate statewide weather situational awareness calls and coordination calls with energy industry providers, and the Texas Energy Reliability Council (TERC) to facilitate information sharing and situational awareness on the state's power grid.

TDEM Disaster Recovery Task Force (DRTF):

ESF6 Mass Care

Warming center locations continually being updated as they open Communicating with Sheltering and Feeding partners across the state, no unmet needs being reported. Staff and supplies prepositioned across the northern regions based on forecasted conditions.

State VAL

State VAL, supported by DRTF Staff, continues to share information and coordinate with Long Term Recovery Groups and VOAD members organizations.

DRTF Staff

DRTF Staff continue to support mass care efforts through the collection of warming center and shelter locations to populate the TDEM public map and to provide to 211.

TDEM Recovery: TDEM Recovery has opened incident-specific damage surveys using the iSTAT tool and the pSTAT tools. The purpose of these surveys is to identify damages across Texas and to help emergency management officials across the state gain an understanding of damages that have occurred during the winter weather disaster.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife): AgriLife Extension participated in the Governor's Briefing and the NWS Winter Weather Awareness Call on February 1, 2022.

Disaster Assessment and Recovery agents and County Extension Strike Team members are on standby to support any ESF11 efforts associated with animal response or other winter recovery efforts as requested.

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX): Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) / Texas A&M Public Works Response Team (TX-PWRT) continues to support and coordinate operations from the Remote SOC serving as ESF-3.

- Two (2) TEEX/TX-PWRT personnel managing ESF 3 Public Works and Engineering at the Remote SOC in Austin.
- Three (3) TEEX/TX-PWRT personnel deployed to the Garland DDC. Team consists of one (1) Team Lead, one (1) Electric Power subject matter expert, and one (1) Water/Wastewater subject matter expert. This team was deployed per a request from Garland DDC.

Addressing STAR requests as received - Currently one (1) received

Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS): Sherman - Grayson County Two 4x4 trucks with 4 personnel have been requested to help with welfare checks primarily along Highway 82 and Highway 75. They will be stationed in Sherman. One pickup truck from Mineral Wells and one pickup truck from Greenville will be in place by 2000 this evening. San Saba County - McGregor is currently providing dozer support for a TXDPS Radio Tower in San Saba County. One of the guy wire anchors is failing and there is concern that the anchor will fail during the ice storm. Dozer work is planned to be done today, and personnel will be returning to the home unit this evening.

Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC): The PUC was activated to the SOC effective 7:00 AM on Wednesday, February 2, 2022. As of 3:00 AM, there were 48,000 outages throughout the state primarily in the North Texas and DFW region; Collin (14,000), Hunt (6,300), Tarrant (4,800), and Dallas (4,700) being the most current affect counties. Peak generation demand during Friday morning's peak is expected to be roughly 71k MW and generation capacity is expected to be approximately 81k MW. We will continue to monitor the weather and report any outages as they occur.

Railroad Commission of Texas: (RRC): RRC is maintaining operational communication with local gas distribution companies, pipelines and major producers. There will be a status reporting call with RRC, local gas distribution companies, pipelines, and major producers on February 3, 2022, at 09:00 AM. Operators, and other district personnel, will continue to monitor and report major impacts. RRC has not received any reports of weather-related natural gas production or distribution issues. Operators have reported that they do not anticipate major issues, as some transition to 24/7 operation. RRC will continue to support ESF 12 and work with TxDOT and PUC throughout the event.

Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC): The Texas Animal Health Commission is maintaining situational awareness of the evolving weather incident. TAHC is activated to the SOC, is monitoring weather calls, and is coordinating with TAHC Regional Offices and animal response partners at the local, state, and federal level for support of local jurisdictions. Coordination communications have occurred with ESF-11 partners regarding potential hay/feed or other livestock-related support following the storm. All partners have indicated no unmet needs at this time but are working to prepare for anticipated issues. TAHC staff remain on standby for response to any animal issues which may arise. All ESF-11 partners are working to maintain contact and situational awareness of any concerns related to these issues.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ): TCEQ has staff and emergency response hazmat contractors on standby for possible deployment to assist local governments with any air/water/waste related issues including drinking water/wastewater issues and/or emergency response activities. Notifications were

sent to Public Drinking Water and Wastewater systems to provide reminders to operators on regulatory guidance, procedures, and preparedness steps to take in advance of approaching winter weather. TCEQ mobile monitoring assets (air monitoring Smart Vans) on standby for possible deployment to impacted areas. TCEQ contacted EPA Region 6 to begin coordination of any possible response activities and resource request.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS): DSHS Texas Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF): The Texas Emergency Medical Task
Force has increased to the standby readiness level due to the ongoing Winter
Weather system impacting the state. [3] SWX PKGs and [2] AMBUSs (additional)
from EMTFs 1,2,4,8,9. A Severe Weather Package includes: [1] Task Force Leader;
[1] Medical Incident Support Team; [1] AMBUS; [1] Ambulance Strike Team.

Texas Department of Public Safety (TXDPS): The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) has increased the readiness of statewide resources to appropriately respond to this winter weather event. Texas Highway Patrol (THP) troopers and other DPS personnel are fully prepared to respond as conditions dictate. Affected THP Disaster District Chairs are communicating with TxDOT, TDEM, TPWD, and local officials to implement emergency response plans. The Northwest, North, West, and Southeast Texas regions are prepared to coordinate with state police partners in New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana to ensure prompt responses to potential interstate highway issues. Due to inclement weather, numerous TXDPS offices are either closed or have delayed office opening for February 3.

On February 2, THP Highway Safety Operations Center (HSOC) began gathering state-wide weather-related event data collection pertaining to crash related information, motorists assist and DDC Activation Levels.

The department issued an hours of service waiver to assist in the transportation of needed response resources, to include transport and delivery of heating fuels, and electrical restoration crews and equipment.

Texas Military Department (TMD): TMD will support THP, TPWD, and TxDOT in protecting life and property during events of winter weather in Texas. TMD has activated 127 personnel and 52 vehicles. Units are staged in Wichita Falls, Lubbock, Abilene, Wylie, and Round Rock in support of 22-0004 February Winter Weather. A Military District Coordinator (MDC) has been activated for District 4B.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD): TPWD is preparing for this winter weather event and is prepared to support with 4x4 vehicles/personnel statewide. Also, TPWD personnel along with Aviation including our UAS Team is continuing to be advised of the current weather conditions and are maintaining a state of readiness.

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT): TxDOT crews are currently engaged pretreating, de-icing, and plowing snow across the north northwest and

central region of the state. Crews are working 12 hour shifts around the clock, preparing, monitoring, and responding to the changing roadway conditions. All 25 TxDOT Districts have personnel identified and ready to respond as conditions change.

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
Texas A&M AgriLife	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
Texas A&M AgriLife	AgriLife Administration	3	0	Assigned	College Station
Texas A&M AgriLife	Marketing & Communications	4	0	Assigned	College Station
Texas A&M AgriLife	DAR Agents	17	17	Activated	Statewide
DSHS	SWP Team #1	20	6	Activated	EMTF Region 1
DSHS	SWP Team #2	20	6	Activated	EMTF Region 2
DSHS	SWP Team #3	20	6	Activated	EMTF Region 4
DSHS	Ambus	7	1	Activated	EMTF Region 8
DSHS	Ambus	7	1	Activated	EMTF Region 9
TAHC	SOC Representative	1	0	Assigned	Austin
TAMFS	Response Resources	50	29	Rostered	Statewide
PUC	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	Austin
RRC	SOC Liaison	3	0	Assigned	Austin
TMD	Winter Weather Package (6 HMMVW & 1 FLA)	18	7	Activated	Wichita Falls
TMD	Winter Weather Package (1 Wrecker, 6 HMMVW & 1 FLA)	18	8	Activated	Lubbock
TMD	Winter Weather Package (1	18	8	Assigned	Abilene

Agency	Resource Kind	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
	Wrecker, 6 HMMVW & 1 FLA)				
TMD	Winter Weather Package (1 Wrecker, 6 HMMVW & 1 FLA)	18	8	Activated	Wylie
TMD	Winter Weather Package (1 Wrecker & 6 HMMVW)	18	7	Activated	Round Rock
TMD	Winter Weather Package (1 Wrecker, 1 Fueler, 9 HMMVW & 3 MTV)	36	14	Activated	Lubbock
TMD	MDC	1	0	Assigned	Garland
TPWD	SOC Liaison	2	2	Assigned	Austin
TXDPS	SOC Liaison	2	0	Assigned	Austin
TxDOT	SOC Liaison	2	0	Assigned	Austin

FINAL COMMENTS: The State Operations Center (SOC) is activated at Level II (Escalated Response Conditions). The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) continues to monitor the situation and will provide additional situation reports as needed.

The four levels of SOC activation are:

Level I (Emergency Conditions)
Level II (Escalated Response Conditions)
Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)
Level IV (Normal Conditions)

This Situation Report can be found on the TDEM webpage at: https://tdem.texas.gov/situation-reports/

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